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Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Wali **Naeemi** (Afghanistan)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2010, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2010, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate on decolonization items (agenda items 55 to 59). The general debate on those items was held at the 2nd, 6th and 7th meetings, on 4, 8 and 11 October (see A/C.4/65/SR.2, 6 and 7). The Committee took action on item 59 at its 7th and 13th meetings, on 11 and 19 October (see A/C.4/65/SR.7 and 13).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of Western Sahara (A/65/306);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/65/330).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chaps. VIII, IX, X and XII.

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4. At the 2nd meeting, on 4 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, introduced the report of the Special Committee. At the same meeting, the representative of Saint Lucia, in his capacity as Chair of the Special Committee, made a statement in which he gave an account of the activities of the Special Committee during 2010 (see A/C.4/65/SR.2).

5. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee granted requests for hearings to the following petitioners in connection with its consideration of the item:

J. J. Bossano, Leader of the Opposition (A/C.4/65/2)

David J. Roberts (A/C.4/65/3)

Michael Anthony Tuncap (A/C.4/65/3/Add.1)

Josette Marie Lujan Quinata (A/C.4/65/3/Add.2)

Alfred Peredo Flores, University of California, Los Angeles (A/C.4/65/3/Add.3)

MyLinh Nguyen (A/C.4/65/3/Add.4)

Maria L. Roberts (A/C.4/65/3/Add.5)

Ilaisaane Lauouvea, Front de Libération Nationale Kanak et Socialiste (A/C.4/65/4)

Alpha Gibbs, Secretary Pro Tempore, Turks and Caicos Forum (A/C.4/65/5)

Wendal Swann, Chairman, All-Party Commission on the Constitution and Electoral Reform (A/C.4/65/5/Add.1)

Edward L. Browne (A/C.4/65/6)

Nancy Huff, President, Teach the Children International (A/C.4/65/7)

Leah Farish (A/C.4/65/7/Add.1)

Helen Hardin (A/C.4/65/7/Add.2)

Gale Sherrill, Representative, The Landing (A/C.4/65/7/Add.3)

Andreas Balog (A/C.4/65/7/Add.4)

Seth Lenz, Christ the Rock Community Church (A/C.4/65/7/Add.5)

Janet Lenz, Director of Saharawi Programmes, Not Forgotten International (A/C.4/65/7/Add.6)

Jean Abboud (A/C.4/65/7/Add.7)

Álvaro Butureira, President, Centro Marroquí de Amistad con los Pueblos (A/C.4/65/7/Add.8)

Tim Kustusch, International Director, Organization for Statehood and Freedom (A/C.4/65/7/Add.9)

Latifa Aït-Baala, Chair, Action internationale femmes (A/C.4/65/7/Add.10)

Cynthia Basinet (A/C.4/65/7/Add.11)

Miguel Ortiz Asin, Presidente, Forum Canario-Saharaui (A/C.4/65/7/Add.12)

Hilde Teuwen, Secrétaire générale, Comité belge de soutien au peuple sahraoui (A/C.4/65/7/Add.13)

Suzanne Scholte, President, Defense Forum Foundation (A/C.4/65/7/Add.14)

Stefan Simanowitz, (A/C.4/65/7/Add.15)

Tayeb Zitouni, Maire de la Ville d'Alger (A/C.4/65/7/Add.16)

Noredine Benbraham, Commandant général, Scouts musulmans algériens (A/C.4/65/7/Add.17)

Maya Sahli, Professeur universitaire, Université d'Alger (A/C.4/65/7/Add.18)

Said Ayachi (A/C.4/65/7/Add.19)

Lamira Alisalem (A/C.4/65/7/Add.20)

Antonio López Ortiz, Secretario, Federación Estatal de Instituciones Solidarias con el Pueblo Saharaui (A/C.4/65/7/Add.21)

Miguel Angel Puyol Garcia, Presidente, Fundacion Centro de Estudios Hispano-Marroquíes (A/C.4/65/7/Add.22)

Felipe Briones Vives, Secretario General, Asociación Internacional de Juristas por el Sáhara Occidental (A/C.4/65/7/Add.23)

Rowaida Farouk Mroue, Founder and Coordinator, International Network of Civic Activists for Supporting Autonomy in Western Sahara (A/C.4/65/7/Add.24)

Sara Amina Adem (A/C.4/65/7/Add.25)

Katlyn Thomas (A/C.4/65/7/Add.26)

Sydney S. Assor, Surrey Three Faiths Forum (A/C.4/65/7/Add.27)

Tanya Warburg, Director, Freedom for All (A/C.4/65/7/Add.28)

Lord Francis Newall, Chair, International Committee for Tindouf Prisoners (A/C.4/65/7/Add.29)

Jane Bahaijoub, Chair, Family Protection (A/C.4/65/7/Add.30)

Salek Rahal (A/C.4/65/7/Add.31)

Javier Ruiz Garcia, Presidente, Observatorio de Derechos Humanos de Castilla La Mancha para el Sáhara Occidental (A/C.4/65/7/Add.32)

Sidi Khaddad El Moussaoui, membre, Conseil royal consulatif pour les affaires Sahariennes (A/C.4/65/7/Add.33)

Fatma Saida, Presidente, Ligue marocaine pour la protection de l'enfance (A/C.4/65/7/Add.34)

Nina Nedrebo, United Nations Association, National Capital Area (A/C.4/65/7/Add.35)

Fala Boussola, Députée parlementaire (A/C.4/65/7/Add.36)

Ahmed Fateh, Association pour la protection des droits de l'Homme (A/C.4/65/7/Add.37)

M'Barka Bouaida, Parliamentary deputy (A/C.4/65/7/Add.38)

Anna Maria Stame Cervone, Internationale des femmes démocrates chrétiennes (A/C.4/65/7/Add.39)

Maluza Wa Mavula Martin, President, International Committee for the Respect and Application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (A/C.4/65/7/Add.40)

El Hairach Abdellah, Association sud migration et développement, Sahet Dchira (A/C.4/65/7/Add.41)

Miguel Castro Moreno, Secretario General, Coordinadora Estatal de Asociaciones Solidarias con el Sáhara (A/C.4/65/7/Add.42)

Alain Hutchinson, Député belge (A/C.4/65/7/Add.43)

Maria Esperanza Jorge Barbuzano, Comité Canario de Solidaridad con los Pueblos (A/C.4/65/7/Add.44)

Mohammad Ziyad Al-Jabari, President, Palestinian Moroccan Friendship Society (A/C.4/65/7/Add.45)

Sara Mesa Flores, Asociación Canaria de Amistad con el Pueblo Saharaui (A/C.4/65/7/Add.46)

Glynn Torres-Spelliscy, Association of the Bar of the City of New York (A/C.4/65/7/Add.47)

Kei Nakagawa, Professor, Hagoromo University of International Studies (A/C.4/65/7/Add.48)

Ahmed Boukhari, Representative, Polisario Front (A/C.4/65/7/Add.49)

Jesus López Aguirre, Presidente, Paz y Libertad en el Sáhara Occidental (A/C.4/65/7/Add.50)

José María Gil Garre (A/C.4/65/7/Add.51)

Moulay Salma Smaaili, Acteur associatif, membre, Association smara marocaine pour le développement humain (A/C.4/65/7/Add.52)

Ignacio Marín Orio (A/C.4/65/7/Add.53)

Nieves Cubas Armas, Consejo General de la Abogacía Española (A/C.4/65/7/Add.54)

Lucien Manokou (A/C.4/65/7/Add.55)

Denis Ducarme, Member, Parliament of Belgium (A/C.4/65/7/Add.56)

Raúl Ignacio Rodríguez Magdaleno, Observatorio Asturiano de Derechos Humanos para el Sáhara Occidental (A/C.4/65/7/Add.57)

Ag Intalla Alghabass, Deputy for Kidal Cities, Advocacy for Peace, Security and Development in Northern Mali (A/C.4/65/7/Add.58)

Guindo Houseeini, Deputy (MP), Convergence for the Development of Mali (A/C.4/65/7/Add.59)

Shoji Matsumoto, Professor, Sapporo University, Japan (A/C.4/65/7/Add.60)

Gregorio González Vega, President, Comisíon de Solidaridad y Cooperación con los Pueblos de la Federación Canaria de Municipios (FECAM) (A/C.4/65/7/Add.61)

Mary Beth Gallagher, Advocacy Officer, Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (A/C.4/65/7/Add.62)

David Eriksson (A/C.4/65/7/Add.63)

Jorge R. Vanossi (A/C.4/65/7/Add.64)

Mohamed Vall Ould El Ghadi, Secrétaire Général, Mémoire et Justice (A/C.4/65/7/Add.65)

Corlett Letlojane, Human Rights Institute of South Africa (A/C.4/65/7/Add.66)

Iraida Leonova, Director, The Center (A/C.4/65/7/Add.67)

Philippe H. Elghouayel, President, Together Foundation (A/C.4/65/7/Add.68)

Román López Villicaña (A/C.4/65/7/Add.69)

Claude Moniquet, President, European Strategic Intelligence and Security Center (A/C.4/65/7/Add.70)

Rafael Esparza Machín, Professor, Universidad de las Palmas de Gran Canaria (A/C.4/65/7/Add.71)

Stephanie Hammond, Human Rights and Religious Freedom Assistant, United States of America Congressman Trent Franks (A/C.4/65/7/Add.72)

Edison Gallardo Bedón, Comandante Provincial Policía Napo No. 20 (A/C.4/65/7/Add.73)

Violeta Ayala (A/C.4/65/7/Add.74)

Daniel Fallshaw (A/C.4/65/7/Add.75)

Franz Mekyna, Austria Morocco Institute (A/C.4/65/7/Add.76)

François-Paul Blanc, Professeur, Université de Perpignan Via Domitia (A/C.4/65/7/Add.77)

Mohamed Hamed Ali, Presidente, Federacion Española de Entidades Religiosas Islámicas (A/C.4/65/7/Add.78)

Frank Tetzel, Editor-in-Chief, *Diplomatisches Magazin* (A/C.4/65/7/Add.79)

Mohamed Salem Ould Mohamed Aly, Mémoire et Justice, Mauritanie (A/C.4/65/7/Add.80)

Moulay Salma Ismaili, Cheikh de tribu sahraouie (A/C.4/65/7/Add.81)

Ismaili Sidi Mohamed, Cheikh, Investisseur agricole à la ville de Smara (Sahara Occidental) (A/C.4/65/7/Add.82)

Sara Patricia Llorente (A/C.4/65/7/Add.83)

Erik Jensen (A/C.4/65/7/Add.84)

Agaila Abba Hemeida (A/C.4/65/7/Add.85)

El Houssine Majdoubi Bahida (A/C.4/65/7/Add.86)

Nicola Quatrano, President, Osservatorio Internazionale (A/C.4/65/7/Add.87)

Teresa K. E. Smith de Cherif, President, Sahara Fund Inc., Medical Director, Sahara Fund Medical Missions (A/C.4/65/7/Add.88)

Eric Cameron, President, World Action for Refugees (A/C.4/65/7/Add.89)

Alessandro Fucito (A/C.4/65/7/Add.90)

Gustavo C. Penadés, Senador, República Oriental del Uruguay (A/C.4/65/7/Add.91)

Ruggero Garzia (A/C.4/65/7/Add.92)

Leonardo Nicolini, Miembro del Plenario, Nacional del Frente Amplio, República del Uruguay (A/C.4/65/7/Add.93)

Mariana San Martin (A/C.4/65/7/Add.94)

Michelle Dover, Western Sahara Resource Watch (A/C.4/65/7/Add.95)

Alfonso Nsue Mokuy, Portavoz de Grupo Parlamentario de la Coalición Democrática en la Cámara de los Representantes del Pueblo (A/C.4/65/7/Add.96)

Carlyle G. Corbin, Jr., International adviser on governance and multilateral diplomacy (A/C.4/65/8)

6. At its 3rd meeting, on 5 October, on the basis of decisions taken at its 2nd meeting, the Committee heard statements on the question of New Caledonia by the President of the Government of New Caledonia, Mr. Philippe Gomes, and a petitioner, Ms. Ilaisaane Lauouvea (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

7. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard statements by the following petitioners on the question of Guam: Mr. David J. Roberts, Mr. Michael Anthony Tuncap, Ms. Josette Marie Quinata, Mr. Alfred Peredo Flores, Ms. MyLinh Nguyen and Ms. Maria Roberts (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

8. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioners on the question of Turks and Caicos: Mr. Alpha Gibbs and Mr. Conrad Howell (on behalf of Mr. Wendal Swann) (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

9. At its 3rd meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioner on the question of the United States Virgin Islands: Mr. Edward L. Browne (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

10. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioner on items 57 and 59: Mr. Carlyle G. Corbin, Jr. (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

11. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioners on the question of Western Sahara:

Ms. Nancy Huff, Ms. Anna Colleen Farish (on behalf of Ms. Leah Farish), Ms. Helen Hardin, Ms. Gale Sherrill, Mr. Andreas Balog, Mr. Seth Lenz, Ms. Janet Lenz, Mr. François-Paul Blanc, Mr. Álvaro Butureira, Ms. Latifa Aït-Baala, Ms. Cynthia Basinet, Mr. Miguel Ortiz Asin, Mr. Jesus López Aguirre, Ms. Suzanne Scholte, Mr. Stefan Simanowitz, Mr. Tayeb Zitouni, Mr. Noredine Benbraham, Ms. Maya Sahli and Mr. Said Ayachi (see A/C.4/65/SR.3).

12. At its 4th meeting, on 6 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard statements on the question of Gibraltar by Mr. Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, and Mr. J. J. Bossano (see A/C.4/65/SR.4).

13. At the same meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioners on the question of Western Sahara: Ms. Lamira Alisalem, Ms. Hilde Teuwen, Mr. Rafael Esparza Machín, Mr. Felipe Briones Vives, Ms. Kei Nakagawa, Ms. Teresa K. E. Smith de Cherif, Ms. Sara Amina Adem, Ms. Katlyn Thomas, Mr. Sydney S. Assor, Ms. Tanya Warburg, Lord Francis Newall, Mrs. Jane Bahaijoub, Mr. David Eriksson, Mr. Javier Ruiz García, Mr. El Moussaoui Sidi Khaddad, Ms. M'Barka Bouaida, Ms. Nina Nedrebo, Mr. Claude Moniquet, Mr. Ahmed Fateh, Mr. Alain Hutchinson, Ms. Anna Maria Stame Cervone, Mr. Denis Ducarme and Mr. El Hairach Abdellah (see A/C.4/65/SR.4).

14. At its 5th meeting, on 7 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard the following petitioners on the question of Western Sahara: Mr. Miguel Castro Moreno, Ms. Fatma Saida, Ms. Sara Mesa Flores, Mr. Glynn Torres-Spelliscy, Ms. Rowaida Farouk Mroue, Mr. Ahmed Boukhari, Mr. Antonio López Ortiz, Mr. José María Gil Garre, Mr. Moulay Salma Ismaili, Mr. Erik Jensen, Ms. Nieves Cubas Armas, Mr. Lucien Manokou, Msgr. Jean Abboud, Mr. Raúl Ignacio Rodríguez Magdaleno, Mr. Román López Villicaña, Mr. Shoji Matsumoto, Mr. Gregorio González Vega, Ms. Mary Beth Gallagher, Mr. Salek Rahal, Mr. Jorge R. Vanossi, Mr. Philippe H. Elghouayel, Mr. Guindo Houseeini, Ms. Fala Boussola, Ms. Stephanie Hammond, Mr. Daniel Fallshaw, Mr. Franz Mekyna, Mr. Maluza Wa Mavula Martin, Mr. Mohamed Hamed Ali, Mr. Frank Tetzel, Ms. Sara Patricia Llorente, Mr. Ignacio Marin Orio, Ms. Agaila Abba Hemeida, Mr. Nicola Quatrano, Mr. Tim Kustusch, Mr. Eric Cameron, Mr. Alessandro Fucito, Mr. Gustavo C. Penades, Ms. Michelle Dover and Mr. Alfonso Nsue Mokuy (see A/C.4/65/SR.5).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Question of Western Sahara

15. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Question of Western Sahara" (A/C.4/65/L.5), submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/65/L.5 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

B. Question of New Caledonia

17. At the 6th meeting, on 8 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, orally revised draft resolution IV, entitled "Question of New Caledonia", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee[2] as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 3, which read:

"3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 26 June 2008 by the Government of New Caledonia of a draft country law (*loi du pays*) on the identity symbols to be adopted by the country in implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the acceptance, on 21 October 2008, of the draft law on the anthem, motto and banknote design",

was replaced by:

"3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 18 August 2010 by the Government of New Caledonia of the law on the anthem, motto and banknote designs";

(b) Operative paragraph 21, which read:

"21. *Recalls with satisfaction*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the 40th summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Cairns, Australia, on 5 and 6 August 2009, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006",

was replaced by:

"21. *Recalls with satisfaction*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the 41st summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Port Vila on 4 and 5 August 2010, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006".

18. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Question of New Caledonia", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

C. Question of Tokelau

19. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Question of Tokelau", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1).

D. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

20. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee decided to defer action on draft resolution VI, entitled "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee.[2]

21. At the 11th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

Draft resolution B, section I. American Samoa

(a) Operative paragraph 1, which read:

"1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government and legislature with regard to the recommendations made by the Future Political Status Study Commission in preparation for American Samoa's fourth constitutional convention, to be held in 2010 to address issues related to the future status of American Samoa, and commends the efforts of the territorial Government to enhance public awareness of the ongoing preparations for submitting constitutional amendments",

was replaced by:

"1. *Takes note* of the proposed amendments to the 1967 revised Constitution of American Samoa adopted at the fourth Constitutional Convention held in June 2010";

(b) Operative paragraph 2, which read:

"2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning the intention of holding the fourth constitutional convention in 2010, if requested",

was replaced by:

"2. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government and legislature in accordance with the recommendations made by the Future Political Status Study Commission in preparation for the fourth Constitutional Convention, and commends the related efforts of the territorial Government to enhance public awareness of the Convention";

Draft resolution B, section IX. Saint Helena

(c) The eighth preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Noting also* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena, and, in this regard, the administering Power's

decision in December 2009 not to proceed with an airport project for the time being, and to conduct further analysis, including options for funding the capital cost of the airport through a public-private partnership",

was replaced by:

"*Noting also* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena, and, in this regard, the administering Power's announcement on 22 July 2010 about plans for building an airport on the island of Saint Helena";

(d) Operative paragraph 4, which read:

"4. *Notes* the decision by the administering Power to carry out further analysis on building an airport in the Territory, and calls upon the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena in the process",

was replaced by:

"4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena while resolving as soon as feasible any outstanding issues related to the airport construction";

Draft resolution B, section X. Turks and Caicos Islands

(e) The seventh preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Noting with concern* the suspension of the elected territorial Government of the Territory",

was replaced by:

"*Noting* the postponement of elections in the Territory";

(f) The position of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 was reversed;

(g) At the end of operative paragraph 3 the words "and notes also the view expressed by the administering Power not to postpone elections any longer than necessary" were inserted;

(h) Operative paragraph 4, which read:

"4. *Stresses* the importance of putting in place for the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the work of the Constitutional Commission, the Turks and Caicos forum and other mechanisms for popular consultation",

was replaced by:

"4. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continued debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process";

(i) A new operative paragraph 5 was inserted, reading:

"5. *Stresses further* the importance of having in place in the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation";

(j) Existing operative paragraphs 5 and 6 were renumbered as operative paragraphs 6 and 7.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution IV).

E. Dissemination of information on decolonization

23. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VII, entitled "Dissemination of information on decolonization", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] by a recorded vote of 148 to 3, with 1 abstention (see para. 29, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

[3] The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Bosnia and Herzegovina subsequently indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

France.

F. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

24. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] by a recorded vote of 149 to 3, with 2 abstentions (see para. 29, draft resolution VI). The voting was as follows:[4]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Belgium, France.

[4] The delegation of Algeria subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour and the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina indicated that, had it been present, it would have voted in favour.

G. Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

25. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution IX, entitled "Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] by a recorded vote of 150 to 3 (see para. 29, draft resolution VII). The voting was as follows:[5]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

H. Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

26. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution X, entitled "Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", contained in

[5] The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina subsequently indicated that, had it been present, it would have voted in favour.

chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee,[2] by a recorded vote of 130 to 3, with 20 abstentions (see para. 29, draft resolution VIII). The voting was as follows:[6]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden.

I. Question of Gibraltar

27. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Question of Gibraltar" (A/C.4/65/L.4), submitted by the Chair.

28. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.4/65/L.4 without a vote (see para. 30).

[6] The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina subsequently indicated that, had it been present, it would have voted in favour.

III. Recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

29. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/101 of 10 December 2009,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009 and 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Also expressing its satisfaction at the holding of two informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, and on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, United States of America, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010,[1]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009) and 1920 (2010) with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, taking note of efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009) and 1920 (2010) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chap. VIII.

[2] A/65/306.

Draft resolution II
Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010 relating to New Caledonia,[1]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord on 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[2]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009 and the conduct of provincial elections in May 2009;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 18 August 2010 by the Government of New Caledonia of the law on the anthem, the motto and banknote designs;

4. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chap. VIII.

[2] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

6. *Also notes* the concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

7. *Takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

8. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

9. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

10. *Notes* the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

12. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

13. *Recalls with satisfaction* the efforts of the French authorities to resolve the question of voter registration by adopting, in the French Congress of Parliament, on 19 February 2007, amendments to the French Constitution allowing New Caledonia to restrict eligibility to vote in local polls to those voters registered on the 1998 electoral rolls when the Nouméa Accord was signed, thus ensuring strong representation of the Kanak population;

14. *Welcomes* all measures taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

15. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

16. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in areas such as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

17. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

18. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

19. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania Summits in July 2003 and June 2006;

20. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

21. *Recalls with satisfaction*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the 41st summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Port Vila on 4 and 5 August 2010, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006;

22. *Recalls* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

23. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

24. *Recalls* the endorsement of the report of the Forum Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia by leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum at its 36th Summit, held in Papua New Guinea in October 2005, and the continuing role of the Forum Ministerial Committee in monitoring developments in the Territory and encouraging closer regional engagements;

25. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the Pacific regional seminar of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, and expresses its appreciation to the people and Government of New Caledonia for hosting the seminar and to the Government of France for its support in organizing it;

26. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

27. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution III
Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010 relating to Tokelau,[1]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 64/103 of 10 December 2009,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chap. X.

each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the decision of the General Fono;

4. *Also recalls* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

5. *Further recalls* that two referendums to determine the status of Tokelau, held in February 2006 and October 2007, did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

6. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

8. *Also acknowledges* Tokelau's adoption of its National Strategic Plan for 2010-2015;

9. *Further acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

10. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

11. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

14. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

15. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution IV
Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A
General

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010,[1]

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that fifty years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[2] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[3]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chap. IX.

[2] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[3] A/56/61, annex.

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the aegis of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Acknowledging the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Noting the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

Mindful that the 2010 Pacific regional seminar was held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[4] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[5] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

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[4] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[5] A/AC.109/2010/2, 4-10 and 12-14.

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[6]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned

[6] A/64/70.

to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[3] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[4] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

B
Individual Territories

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I
American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[7] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[8]

Noting the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa in regional seminars inviting the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007, and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee in the Territory, as well as the holding in June 2010 of American Samoa's fourth Constitutional Convention,

Noting, in that regard, the statement made by the Governor of American Samoa at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, and previous policy papers presented to the Special Committee, in which he stated that, while the Territory's status was akin to being self-governing, it was time to forge a more collaborative approach between the Territory and the administering Power,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that the effects of certain federal laws on the Territory's economy are serious cause for concern,

Aware that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Takes note* of the proposed amendments to the 1967 revised Constitution of American Samoa adopted at the fourth Constitutional Convention held in June 2010;

2. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government and legislature in accordance with the recommendations made by the Future Political Status Study Commission in preparation for the fourth Constitutional Convention, and commends the related efforts of the territorial Government to enhance public awareness of the Convention;

3. *Expresses appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2010 to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on

[7] A/AC.109/2010/12.

[8] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme recommended by the Future Political Status Study Commission in its 2007 report, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of the economy of the Territory and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

II
Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[9] and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Recalling also the statement of the representative of Anguilla at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Noting the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, and the 2008 decision to set up a drafting team consisting of territorial Government officials, members of the House of Assembly and lawyers to draft a new constitution, as well as the presentation of the draft constitution for public consultation in the Territory in 2009 and the expectation that the draft text will be further discussed with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 2010, with the aim of seeking full internal self-government,

Aware that the Government intends to continue its commitment to high-end tourism and the implementation of various regulations in the financial services sector,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Welcomes* the presentation of a new constitution for public consultation in 2009 with the aim of further discussing the new constitution with the administering Power in 2010;

[9] A/AC.109/2010/9.

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including fiscal matters;

III
Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[10] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Bermuda at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting a recent survey by local media on the matter,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

[10] A/AC.109/2010/6.

IV
British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[11] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling also the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council of the Territory, the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission in 2004, the completion in 2005 of its report providing recommendations on internal constitutional modernization and the debate held in 2005 on the report in the Legislative Council, as well as the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which resulted in the adoption of the new Constitution of the Territory in 2007,

Noting the view expressed in the aforementioned statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar, that, building on the conclusion of the recent internal constitutional modernization exercise, the Territory's focus was on economic development prior to any search for independence,

Noting also the impact of the global economic slowdown on the Territory's financial and tourism services sectors,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Recalls* the new Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, which took effect in June 2007, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Territory to stimulate, including through small business development, the two major segments of its economic base, namely financial services and tourism;

V
Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[12] and other relevant information,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, which, inter alia, indicated that, as affirmed during the general elections in May 2009, the

[11] A/AC.109/2010/2.
[12] A/AC.109/2010/5.

territorial Government had no mandate from the Territory's people to pursue full political independence,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003, and the reopening of discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional modernization, in 2006, which resulted in the finalization of a new draft constitution in February 2009, its subsequent acceptance by referendum in May 2009, and promulgation in November 2009,

Noting with interest the establishment, under the new Constitution, of a Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that certain economic growth and cost-of-living issues, such as inflation, continue to be cause for concern,

1. *Welcomes* the promulgation of a new Constitution in November 2009, and the appointment of Commissioners of the new Constitutional Commission by the Governor, in consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to address sectoral management policies and cost-of-living issues in various economic sectors;

VI
Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[13] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[14]

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and

[13] A/AC.109/2010/14.

[14] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also the previously expressed requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant of the importance that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of the deep concerns expressed by civil society and others, including at the meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee of the General Assembly in October 2009 and at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

VII
Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[15] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Montserrat at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling also the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report and the subsequent discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional advancement and devolution of power,

Recalling further that the negotiating process with the administering Power on a draft constitution giving greater autonomy to the territorial Government is ongoing, and that, since March 2009, the administering Power has accorded stronger emphasis to the redevelopment of the Territory,

Noting that, in May 2010, the newly elected territorial Government continued the process of negotiating constitutional reforms with the administering Power and a draft constitution agreed between the two parties was published for public consultation,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Recalling the statements made by participants at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the Territory's special needs,

Noting with concern the continued consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory and welcomes the public consultation being undertaken;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

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[15] A/AC.109/2010/7.

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII
Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[16] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Noting that, following consultations in 2009, the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010, including human rights provisions, came into force in the Territory in March 2010, replacing the 1970 Pitcairn Order and 1970 Royal Instructions,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a new governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010 in the Territory in March 2010, featuring a new constitutional framework and human rights provisions, and all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support economic security in Pitcairn;

IX
Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[17] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

[16] A/AC.109/2010/4.
[17] A/AC.109/2010/8.

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Noting the internal constitutional review process led by the territorial Government since 2001, the completion of a draft constitution following negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government in 2003 and 2004, the consultative poll with regard to a new Constitution, held in Saint Helena in May 2005, the subsequent preparation of a revised draft constitution and its publication in June 2008 for further public consultation, and the entry into force of the new Constitution for Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha on 1 September 2009,

Aware that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware also of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

Noting the efforts of the Territory to address the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government in dealing with it,

Noting also the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena, and, in this regard, the administering Power's announcement on 22 July 2010 about plans for building an airport on the island of Saint Helena,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the entry into force of the Territory's new Constitution in 2009;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socio-economic development challenges, including unemployment, and limited transport and communications infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena while resolving as soon as feasible any outstanding issues related to the airport construction;

X
Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[18] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

[18] A/AC.109/2010/10.

Recalling also the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Recalling further the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which entered into force in 2006,

Noting the administering Power's decision to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal,

Acknowledging the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the Territory's economy,

Noting the postponement of elections in the Territory,

1. *Notes with concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance and sound financial management in the Territory;

2. *Calls for* the restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through elected territorial Government as soon as possible;

3. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the restoration of democratically elected territorial Government as a matter of urgency and notes also the view expressed by the administering Power not to postpone elections any longer than necessary;

4. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continued debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

5. *Stresses further* the importance of having in place in the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socio-economic development across the Territory;

XI
United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[19] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[20]

Aware also of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power for review and action,

Cognizant also of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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[19] A/AC.109/2010/13.

[20] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

Draft resolution V
Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[1]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 64/105 of 10 December 2009,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[2]

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", which was updated for the United Nations

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1), chap. III.

[2] A/56/61, annex.

website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end, requests the Department of Public Information through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VI
Implementation of the declaration on the granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010,[1]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 64/106 of 10 December 2009, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, a second such event in a Non-Self-Governing Territory in the past decade,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/65/23 and Corr.1).

concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[2]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[3]

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[4] represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

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[3] See resolution 54/91.

[4] A/56/61, annex.

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2010, including the programme of work envisaged for 2011;[1]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

Draft resolution VII
Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, in which the peoples of the world proclaimed their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[1]

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing the significant and commendable role played by the United Nations, since its very inception, in the field of decolonization, and noting the emergence, during this period, of more than one hundred States into sovereign existence,

Noting with satisfaction, in particular, that during the past fifty years a large number of former colonial Territories have achieved independence and that many former Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories have exercised their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting also with satisfaction the important contribution made by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in furthering the aims and objectives of the Declaration,

Noting further with satisfaction the active and important role being played by former colonial Territories, as States Members of the United Nations and members of the other organizations of the United Nations system, in the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter, the preservation of international peace and security, decolonization and the promotion of human progress, as well as the profound impact thereof on contemporary international relations,

Stressing the importance of formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee with a view to

[1] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

furthering the process of decolonization and self-determination, and encouraging them to continue to do so,

Conscious of the fact that the Declaration has played an important role in assisting the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and will continue to serve as an inspiration in their efforts to achieve self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter and in mobilizing world public opinion for the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting with satisfaction the work accomplished by the regional seminars held by the Special Committee during the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Deeply concerned about the fact that, fifty years after the adoption of the Declaration, colonialism has not yet been totally eradicated,

Increasingly aware of the importance of economic, social and cultural development and self-reliance of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their peoples for the attainment and consolidation of genuine self-government and independence,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Determined to take effective measures leading to the complete and unconditional elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations without further delay,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of all peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV);

2. *Declares* that the continuation of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and the principles of international law;

3. *Urges* Member States to do their utmost to promote, in the United Nations and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, effective measures for the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in all Non-Self-Governing Territories to which the Declaration applies;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers and other Member States to ensure that the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories do not run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and do not impede the implementation of the Declaration;

5. *Requests* Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the colonial Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

6. *Reiterates the view* that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of their

inalienable right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* that all administering Powers are obliged, under the Charter and in accordance with the Declaration, to create economic, social and other conditions in the Territories under their administration that will enable those Territories to achieve genuine self-government and economic self-reliance;

8. *Requests* the administering Powers to preserve the cultural identity, as well as the national unity, of the Territories under their administration and to encourage the full development of the indigenous culture, with a view to facilitating the unfettered exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the peoples of those Territories;

9. *Considers it incumbent upon* the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the process of decolonization and to intensify its efforts for the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with a view to the further mobilization of international public opinion in support of complete decolonization;

10. *Urges* Member States to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

11. *Invites* non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization to intensify their activities in cooperation with the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the full compliance of all States with resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization, to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories to which it applies and to propose to the General Assembly specific measures for the complete implementation of the Declaration in the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Invites* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in the complete fulfilment of its mandate.

Draft resolution VIII
Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

The General Assembly,

Recalling that 2010 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[1]

Recalling also its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, by which it declared the period 1990-2000 the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, by which it adopted a plan of action for the Decade,[2] and resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[3] including the renewal of the call to States Members of the United Nations to speed up the process of decolonization towards the complete elimination of colonialism, including by supporting the effective implementation of the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[4]

Bearing in mind also that the participants in the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010 called for the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to propose the declaration of a new decade for the eradication of colonialism,

Recalling its resolution 64/106 of 10 December 2009, in which it reconfirmed the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146, and reaffirmed its determination to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[5] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6]

Having examined the relevant reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the plans of action for the International Decades,[7]

Taking into account the important contribution of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, in particular through the Special Committee,

1. *Declares* the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

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[1] Resolution 1514 (XV).
[2] See A/46/634/Rev.1, annex.
[3] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.
[4] Ibid., para. 43.5.
[5] Resolution 217 A (III).
[6] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[7] A/44/800, A/45/624, A/46/593 and Add.1, A/46/634/Rev.1, A/54/219, A/55/497, A/56/61, A/60/71 and Add.1, A/64/70 and A/65/330.

2. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify their efforts to continue to implement the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[8] and to cooperate with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in updating it as necessary, with a view to using it as the basis for a plan of action for the Third International Decade;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to develop a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

4. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, actively to support and participate in the implementation of the plan of action during the Third International Decade;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the plan of action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-fifth sessions on the implementation of the present resolution.

[8] A/56/61, annex.

30. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Question of Gibraltar

The General Assembly, recalling its decision 64/521 of 10 December 2009 and the statements agreed to by the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Brussels, on 27 November 1984,[1] and in Madrid, on 27 October 2004, and noting the establishment, pursuant to the latter, of the tripartite Forum for Dialogue on Gibraltar, separate from the Brussels Process, under the statement made jointly by the Governments of Spain, the United Kingdom and Gibraltar on 16 December 2004:

(a) Urges both Governments, while listening to the interests and aspirations of Gibraltar, to reach, in the spirit of the statement of 27 November 1984, a definitive solution to the question of Gibraltar, in the light of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and applicable principles, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Welcomes the continuing success of the trilateral Forum for Dialogue and the shared commitment to make further progress in six additional areas of cooperation.

[1] A/39/732, annex.

United Nations A/65/431

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 November 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 118

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Wali **Naeemi** (Afghanistan)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2010, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly" and to allocate it to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 23rd meeting, on 11 November 2010 (see A/C.4/65/SR.23).

3. At its 23rd meeting, on 11 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision submitted by the Bureau, entitled "Proposed programme of work and timetable of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly" (A/C.4/65/L.7).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.4/65/L.7 (see para. 5).

Recommendation of the Fourth Committee

5. The Fourth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Proposed programme of work and timetable of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly approves the proposed programme of work and timetable of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, as contained in the annex to the report of the Fourth Committee.

10-54647 (E) 301110

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Annex

Proposed programme of work and timetable of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly

Agenda items	*Dates for consideration*
Organization of work	Thursday, 29 September 2011, morning (1 meeting)
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations	Monday, 3 October, afternoon
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories	Tuesday, 4 October, afternoon
	Wednesday, 5 October, afternoon
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	Thursday, 6 October, afternoon
	Friday, 7 October, afternoon
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	Monday, 10 October, morning (6 meetings)
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	
International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (interactive dialogue followed by a general debate)	Tuesday, 11 October, morning
	Wednesday, 12 October, morning
	Thursday, 13 October, morning
	Friday, 14 October, morning (4 meetings)
Questions relating to information (interactive dialogue followed by a general debate)	Tuesday, 18 October, afternoon
	Wednesday, 19 October, afternoon
	Thursday, 20 October, afternoon (3 meetings)
Effects of atomic radiation (interactive dialogue followed by a general debate)	Friday, 21 October, afternoon (1 meeting)

Agenda items	*Dates for consideration*
Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (interactive dialogue followed by a general debate)	Monday, 24 October, morning Tuesday, 25 October, morning Wednesday, 26 October, morning Thursday, 27 October, morning (4 meetings)
Assistance in mine action	Friday, 28 October, morning (1 meeting)
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (question and answer period followed by a general debate)	Monday, 31 October, afternoon Tuesday, 1 November, afternoon Wednesday, 2 November, morning (3 meetings)
Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	Friday, 4 November, morning Tuesday, 8 November, morning Wednesday, 9 November, morning (3 meetings)[a]
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (draft programme of work for the next session) Programme planning Action on all pending draft resolutions and decisions	Thursday, 10 November, morning (1 meeting)
Total	**27 meetings**

[a] Monday, 7 November 2011 is an official holiday.

United Nations A/65/432

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Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 130

Programme planning

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Wali **Naeemi** (Afghanistan)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2010, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) as well as to all the other Main Committees and the plenary of the Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

2. The need did not arise for the Fourth Committee to take up this item during the main part of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

10-54653 (E) 301110

Please recycle

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General Assembly

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Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 17

Information and communications technologies for development

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Paul Losoko Efambe **Empole** (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2010, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 18th, 19th, 27th and 31st meetings, on 26 and 27 October and on 4 and 24 November 2010. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/65/SR.18, 19, 27 and 31). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 4 to 6 October (see A/C.2/65/SR.2-6).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/65/64-E/2010/12);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum (A/65/78-E/2010/68);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/65/276);

(d) Letter dated 21 October 2010 from the representative of Lithuania to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/65/2).

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4. At the 18th meeting, on 26 October, introductory statements were made by the Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Chief of the Science, Technology and Information and Communication Technologies Branch of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (see A/C.2/65/SR.18).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/65/L.22 and A/C.2/65/L.56

5. At the 27th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Yemen, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" (A/C.2/65/L.22), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007 and 63/202 of 19 December 2008, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2008/3 of 18 July 2008 and 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, its resolution 64/187 of 21 December 2009, and other relevant resolutions,

"*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

"*Noting* that cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind and that the information society should be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions, and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations, and noting also that the promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, will further enrich the information society,

"*Recalling* the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, as endorsed by the General Assembly, and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005, and endorsed by the General Assembly,

"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling further* the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development by the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which calls for broadband-friendly practice and policies towards attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to ensure that the potential of broadband connectivity and content are at the service of development,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and recognizing the need to also invite intergovernmental organizations from developing countries to participate in future consultations on this matter,

"*Recognizing* that while in recent years considerable progress has been made in access to information communications technologies in some areas, including in cellular telephony, less than 18 per cent of the population in the developing countries uses the Internet, compared to over 60 per cent in developed countries,

"*Reaffirming* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable economic growth,

"*Expressing concern* that the current financial and economic crisis impacts negatively on the positive trends in information and communications technology diffusion and the investment needed in order to ensure universal access to information and communications technologies,

"*Stressing* the need to reduce the digital divide including the imbalanced Internet international interconnection charges between developed and developing countries and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies are available to all,

"*Recognizing further* that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations, as stated in paragraph 29 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,

"*Recognizing* the importance of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum, as a multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet,

"*Emphasizing* the significance and urgency of starting the process for enhanced cooperation in full consistency with the mandate provided in paragraph 71 of the Tunis Agenda and the need for enhanced cooperation to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet,

but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues,

"*Taking note* of the discussions at the fourth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 15 to 18 November 2009, on the future of the Forum, which generally welcomed the renewal of its mandate and recognized the need for further discussion on the improvement of its working methods,

"*Welcoming* the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the first, second, third, fourth and fifth meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens, Greece, in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, and in Vilnius, Lithuania, in 2010, respectively,

"*Taking note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum,

"*Noting* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum as a multi-stakeholder policy dialogue, as well as its role in building partnerships among different stakeholders so as to help in addressing the various issues of Internet governance, while reiterating the call for improvements of its working methods,

"*Welcoming*, in view of the existing gaps in information and communications technologies infrastructure, the Connect Africa summits held in Kigali, Rwanda, in 2007 and in Cairo, Egypt, in 2008 and the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit held in Minsk, Belarus, in 2009 and the meeting of Commonwealth countries in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 2010, which are regional initiatives aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

"*Recognizing* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment, of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development,

"*Noting* the contribution of the Global Alliance for Information and Communications Technologies and Development to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development,

"*Noting also* the thirteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Geneva from 17 to 21 May 2010,

"*Recognizing* the pivotal role of the United Nations system in promoting development, including with respect to enhancing access to information and communications technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders,

"1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth,

competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular least developed countries into the global economy;

"2. *Expresses concern* regarding the widening gap in broadband connectivity between countries at different levels of development, which affects many economically and socially relevant applications in areas such as, inter alia, government, business, health and education, and further expresses concern with regard to the special challenges faced in the area of broadband connectivity by developing countries, including the least developed countries, the small islands developing States and landlocked developing countries;

"3. *Stresses* the important role of Governments in the design of public policies and in the provision of public services responsive to national needs and priorities through, inter alia, the effective use of information and communications technologies to support national development efforts;

"4. *Recognizes* that, in addition to financing by the public sector, financing of information and communications technologies infrastructure by the private sector has come to play an important role in many countries and that domestic financing is being augmented by North-South flows and South-South cooperation;

"5. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges, and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as insufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity and issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

"6. *Further recognizes* the immense potential that information and communications technologies have in promoting the transfer of technologies in a wide spectrum of socio-economic activity;

"7. *Recognizes* that South-South cooperation, particularly through triangular cooperation, can be a useful tool to promote the development of information and communications technologies;

"8. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms, in a joint effort and dialogue with developing and least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

"9. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Tunisia, host of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in collaboration with

the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union and other relevant international and regional organizations, for organizing annually the ICT 4 All Forum and technological exhibition as a platform within the framework of the follow-up to the Summit to promote a dynamic business environment for the information and communications technologies sector worldwide;

"10. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the need for resources in this regard;

"11. *Notes* the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2010 by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to facilitate interaction among actors implementing the Summit's action lines;

"12. *Recognizes* the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in that regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"13. *Also recognizes* the role of the United Nations Group on the Information Society as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination designed to coordinate United Nations implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes;

"14. *Further recognizes* that the Internet governance related outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, namely the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary to one another;

"15. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum for a further five years, and in this regard, invites the Secretary-General to continue with the convening of the Internet Governance Forum for a multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on Internet governance issues according to its mandate as set out in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, while recognizing at the same time the need to improve it from many aspects with a view to linking it within the broader context of global governance of the Internet;

"16. *Also decides* that the desirability of continuation of the Internet Governance Forum be considered again by Member States at the General Assembly within the context of a ten-year review of implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015;

"17. *Stresses* the need for the Internet Governance Forum to improve its working and function, and to continue to improve its activities with a view to

advancing, as referred to in paragraphs 73 and 78 of the Tunis Agenda, increased openness, diversity, transparency, accountability and predictability, in order to accomplish its mandate as defined in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda;

"18. *Invites* the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish, in an open and inclusive manner, a working group which would seek, compile and review inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, in line with the mandate set out in the Tunis Agenda, and which would submit a report to the Commission at its fourteenth session, in 2011, with recommendations, as appropriate, that would constitute an input by the Commission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

"19. *Stresses* that the consideration of Internet Governance Forum improvements, with possible recommendations, should be sought, compiled and reviewed based on the inputs to be provided to the Working Group of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the elements of the report of the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum and the inputs of the various stakeholders participating in the Forum, drawing on the many concerns expressed during the session chaired by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs at the fourth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2009, with particular consideration to the following aspects, inter alia:

"(a) The representation and voices of the developing countries should be increased and the development issues should be placed as the first priority;

"(b) The necessity to explore further voluntary options to financing the forum in order to enhance its functioning in a stable and transparent manner;

"(c) The preparation process modalities of its work and the functioning of the secretariat should be improved, the provision in paragraph 78 of the Tunis Agenda on establishing a cost-effective bureau to support the Internet Governance Forum should be implemented, and the balanced representation of all stakeholders and geographical regions should be ensured;

"20. *Stresses* the need to enhance the participation of Governments and other stakeholders from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries in all Internet Governance Forum meetings;

"21. *Invites* Member States to support the participation of stakeholders from developing countries in the preparatory meetings of the Internet Governance Forum and in the Forum itself;

"22. *Invites* the Secretary-General to convene open and inclusive consultations involving all Member States and all other stakeholders with a view to assisting the process towards enhanced cooperation in order to enable Governments on an equal footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact upon those issues, through balanced participation of all stakeholders, especially

developing countries, in their respective roles and responsibilities, as stated in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the outcome of these consultations;

"23. *Recognizes* that the Internet critical resources are public resources that belong to all mankind, and all countries are equally entitled to the management and utilization of those resources;

"24. *Stresses* that the United Nations should play a more important role in the field of 'information and communications technology for development', continue to adhere to the principle of 'multilateralism, democracy and transparency' for the governance of the Internet as endorsed by the World Summit on the Information Society;

"25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, including on the work of the Internet Governance Forum;

"26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled 'Information and communications technologies for development'."

6. At its 31st meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" (A/C.2/65/L.56), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Jean Claudy Pierre (Haiti), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.22.

7. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair, the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.56.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.56 had no programme budget implications.

9. Also at its 31st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.56 (see para. 12).

10. Before the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.56, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America; after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, as well as Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) and Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand) (see A/C.2/65/SR.31).

11. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.56, draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.22 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

12. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Information and communications technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008 and 64/187 of 21 December 2009, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008 and 2009/7 of 24 July 2009 and other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Noting that cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind and that the information society should be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions, and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations, and noting also that the promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[1] will further enrich the information society,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[2] as endorsed by the General Assembly,[3] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[4] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[5]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling further the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome,[7]

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[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[2] See A/C.2/95/3, annex.

[3] See resolution 59/220.

[4] See A/60/687.

[5] See resolution 60/252.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

[7] See resolution 65/1.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[8]

Taking note also of the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and of the report of the Commission prepared in cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled *A 2010 Leadership Imperative: The Future Built on Broadband*,[9] which calls for broadband-friendly practice and policies towards the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to ensure that the potential of broadband connectivity and content are at the service of development,

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet,[10] and recognizing the need to promote the participation of intergovernmental organizations from developing countries in future consultations,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum,[11]

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development,

Noting the thirteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Geneva from 17 to 21 May 2010,

Recognizing that while in recent years considerable progress has been made in access to information and communications technologies, including the steady increase in Internet access to nearly one quarter of the world population, the expanding penetration of cellular telephony and the availability of multilingual content and Internet addresses, the need remains to reduce the digital divide and ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all, and recognizing in this regard that less than 18 per cent of the population in the developing countries uses the Internet, compared to more than 60 per cent in developed countries,

Reaffirming the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable economic growth,

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[8] A/65/64-E/2010/12.

[9] Available from www.broadbandcommission.org

[10] E/2009/92.

[11] A/65/78-E/2010/68.

Expressing concern about the impact of the world financial and economic crisis on the positive trends in the diffusion of information and communications technology and the investment needed to ensure universal access to information and communications technologies,

Stressing the need to reduce the digital divide, including with regard to such issues as international interconnection charges for Internet use, and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all,

Acknowledging that the Internet, a central element of the infrastructure of the information society, has evolved from a research and academic facility into a global facility available to the public,

Recognizing that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations, as stated in paragraph 29 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,[4]

Recognizing also the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet, as well as its role in building partnerships among different stakeholders so as to help in addressing the various issues of Internet governance, while acknowledging the calls for improvements in its working methods,

Emphasizing the significance and urgency of the process for enhanced cooperation in full consistency with the mandate provided in paragraph 71 of the Tunis Agenda[4] and the need for enhanced cooperation to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not have an impact on international public policy issues,

Taking note of the consultations at the fourth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 15 to 18 November 2009, on the future of the Forum, which generally welcomed the renewal of its mandate and recognized the need for further discussion on the improvement of its working methods,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the first, second, third, fourth and fifth meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009 and in Vilnius in 2010, respectively,

Noting the contribution of the Global Alliance for Information and Communications Technologies and Development to the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development,

Recognizing the pivotal role of the United Nations system in promoting development, including with respect to enhancing access to information and communications technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders,

Welcoming, in view of the existing gaps in information and communications technologies infrastructure, the Connect Africa summits held in Kigali in 2007 and in Cairo in 2008, the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit held in Minsk in 2009 and the meeting of Commonwealth countries in Colombo in 2010, which are regional initiatives aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Expresses concern* regarding the digital divide in access to information and communications technology tools and broadband connectivity between countries at different levels of development, which affects many economically and socially relevant applications in areas such as, inter alia, government, business, health and education, and further expresses concern with regard to the special challenges faced in the area of broadband connectivity by developing countries, including the least developed countries, the small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;

3. *Acknowledges* that a gender divide exists as part of the digital divide, and encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to the new technologies, especially information and communications technologies for development;

4. *Stresses* that, for the majority of the poor, the developmental promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divide;

5. *Stresses also* the important role of Governments in the design of public policies and in the provision of public services responsive to national needs and priorities through, inter alia, the effective use of information and communications technologies, including on the basis of a multi-stakeholder approach, to support national development efforts;

6. *Recognizes* that, in addition to financing by the public sector, financing of information and communications technologies infrastructure by the private sector has come to play an important role in many countries and that domestic financing is being augmented by North-South flows and South-South cooperation;

7. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges, and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as insufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity and issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

8. *Further recognizes* the immense potential that information and communications technologies have in promoting the transfer of technologies in a wide spectrum of socio-economic activity;

9. *Recognizes* that South-South and triangular cooperation can be a useful tool to promote the development of information and communications technologies;

10. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[3] and Tunis[4] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms, in a joint effort and dialogue with developing and least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Tunisia, host of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union and other relevant international and regional organizations, for organizing annually the ICT 4 All Forum and technological exhibition as a platform within the framework of the follow-up to the Summit to promote a dynamic business environment for the information and communications technologies sector worldwide;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the need for resources in this regard;

13. *Notes* the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2010 by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to facilitate interaction among actors implementing the Summit's action lines, and invites organizers to fully engage Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector in the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2011, to be held in Geneva from 16 to 20 May 2011;

14. *Recognizes* the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in that regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

15. *Also recognizes* the role of the United Nations Group on the Information Society as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination designed to coordinate United Nations implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

16. *Further recognizes* that the Internet governance related outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, namely the process towards enhanced

cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary;

17. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum for a further five years, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue the convening of the Internet Governance Forum for a multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on Internet governance issues according to its mandate as set out in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,[4] recognizing at the same time the need to improve it, with a view to linking it to the broader dialogue on global Internet governance;

18. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 30 of its resolution 2010/2 to invite the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish, in an open and inclusive manner, a working group which would seek, compile and review inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, in line with the mandate set out in the Tunis Agenda,[4] and would submit a report to the Commission at its fourteenth session, in 2011, with recommendations, as appropriate, that would constitute an input from the Commission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

19. *Stresses* that consideration of improvements to the Internet Governance Forum should be based on the inputs to be provided to the working group by all Member States and all other stakeholders, including those comments received during the online consultation and the consultation undertaken by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs during the fourth meeting of the Forum held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2009, with particular consideration of, inter alia, enhancing the participation of developing countries, exploring further voluntary options for financing the Forum and improving the modalities of the preparation process and the work and functioning of the Forum's secretariat;

20. *Decides* that the desirability of continuation of the Internet Governance Forum will be considered again by Member States in the General Assembly within the context of a ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015;

21. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in all Internet Governance Forum meetings, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as the preparatory meetings;

22. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 24 of its resolution 2010/2 to invite the Secretary-General to convene open and inclusive consultations involving all Member States and all other stakeholders with a view to assisting the process towards enhanced cooperation to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet but not in respect of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not have an impact on those issues, through balanced participation of all stakeholders, especially developing countries, in their respective roles and responsibilities, as stated in

paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda,[4] requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the outcome of those consultations, and takes note of the invitation circulated by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs to participate in the open consultations on enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development".